REMARKS

I. Amendments

A. Claims

Claims 1-24 have been canceled. Claims 25-33 have been added. The newly added claims do not add or constitute new matter. Support for the newly added claims may be found throughout the specification and originally filed claims.

B. Specification

The specification has been amended at the Brief Description of the Drawings in order to add more description to Figure 2A as requested by the Examiner. The amendment is completely supported by the instant application, and in particular by originally filed Figure 2A. Therefore the amendment does not constitute new matter.

C. Drawings

Figure 2A has been amended merely to add a sequence identifier in order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.821 through 1.825. The sequence disclosed in Figure 2A is not a newly disclosed sequence, but is identical to the sequence originally disclosed in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO:1) with the exception that it contains indications of the location and extent of the disruption of the sequence as disclosed in the present invention. Therefore, no new matter has been added by this amendment.

The foregoing amendments to the claims and specification are made solely to expedite prosecution of the instant application, and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention. Further, the amendments to the claims are made without prejudice to the pending or now canceled claims or to any subject matter pursued in a related application. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute any canceled subject matter at a later time or in a later filed divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part application.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 25-33 are pending in the instant application.

II. Objections

The Examiner has objected to the specification because the Brief Description of the Drawings does not contain a description of Figure 2A. Applicant submits that a description of the drawing can be found at page 8, line 9, of the specification. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the application, Applicant has amended the specification at the Brief Description

of the Drawings in order to add additional description of the originally filed Figure 2A, as noted above. Therefore, the objection is no longer relevant.

III. Sequence Compliance

The Examiner has alleged that the instant application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.821 through 1.825 because Figure 2A allegedly contains an unidentified sequence. The Applicant believes that the specification has sufficiently identified the sequence in Figure 2A to be the target adrenomedullin receptor gene (SEQ ID NO:1) at, for example, page 51, lines 10-16. However, Applicant has amended Figure 2A to add the sequence identifier (SEQ ID NO:1), in order to more clearly identify the sequence. Applicant submits that the sequence in Figure 2A is identical to the sequence disclosed in Figure 1 and in SEQ ID NO:1 of the sequence listing filed in this application. Therefore, Applicant believes that the sequence listing previously filed contains all sequences contained in the instant application as required by 37 CFR § 1.821 through 1.825.

IV. Rejections (under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph)

A. Enablement Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 8, 10 and 17-23 under 35 U.S.C. 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification allegedly does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claim. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Specifically, the Examiner asserts that while the specification is enabling for a transgenic mouse whose genome comprises a homozygous disruption of the adrenomedullin receptor gene, the nucleotide sequence of which is set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the mouse exhibits a phenotype of hypoactivity and increased anxiety, and a method of making the same by introducing a targeting construct into an ES cell, introducing the ES cell into a blastocyst, and implanting the blastocyst into a pseudopregnant mouse, and allowing said blastocyst to develop to term, does not reasonably provide enablement for all other transgenic non-human animals and methods of making transgenic mice embraced by the claims.

In view of the cancellation of claims 8, 10 and 17-23, the Examiner's rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph is no longer relevant. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first

paragraph. Applicant submits that new claims 25-33 fully meet the requirements and are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

B. Written Description Rejection

Claims 8, 10 and 17-23 also stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the claimed embodiments of nucleotide sequences that are homologs of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 lack an adequate written description because the specification allegedly fails to describe what molecules fall into this genus, and a skilled artisan allegedly cannot envision the detailed chemical structure of the DNA molecules encompassed by the homologs.

Although Applicant disagrees that the specification lacks adequate written description of the genus of target genes encompassed by the claims, Applicant submits that this rejection is no longer relevant as a result of the cancellation of claims 8, 10 and 17-23.

Claims 25-33 are drawn to a transgenic mouse comprising a disruption in an adrenomedullin receptor gene comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, has been sufficiently described in the specification at, for example, page 6, lines 20-24, and page 51, lines 10-29 of the specification or in Figures 1 and 2A as filed. These claims fully meet the written description requirements and are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

It is believed that the claims are currently in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1271 under Order No. R-615.

Respectfully submitted,

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